FISHERMAN

DECEMBER 12th, 1974, ISSUE No. 48

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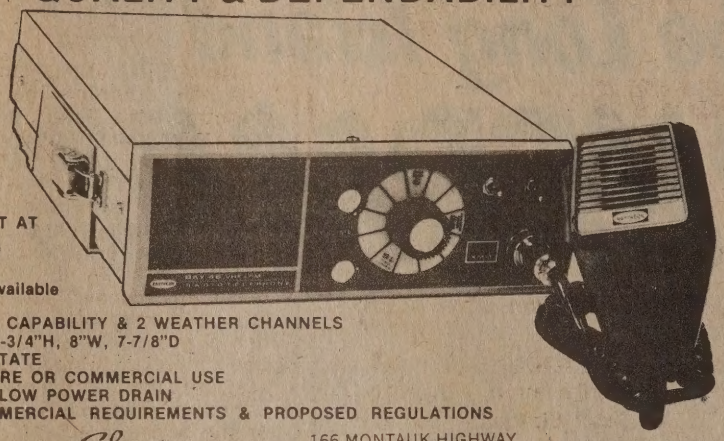

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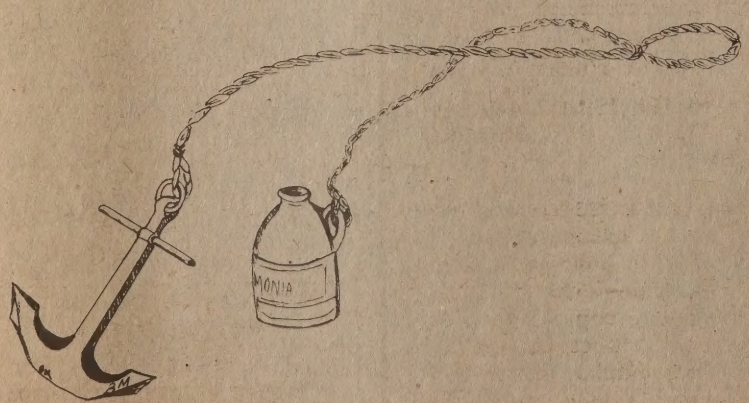
Tip of the Week

Don Avondolio
E. Northport, N.Y.

To prevent loss of anchor line while fishing in rough waters, tie an empty ammonia bottle (or equivalent) (with enough cord to reach bottom) to the end loop of your anchor line. If anchor line slips off boat cleat, bottle will float and indicate location of line.



News Releases

NEW YORK HARBOR STUDY

A five-year Fordham University study on improving water quality in New York harbor and adjacent coastal areas will be funded by EPA's Pacific Northwest Environmental Research Laboratory in Corvallis, Ore. The study to cost about $600,000, is to determine the best practicable treatment methods of waste water treatment which is to be provided by municipal sewage treatment plants. Attempts also will be made to discover techniques to remove plant nutrients from sewage. An explosive growth of algae in New York harbor could turn it into a gigantic "pea soup," causing obnoxious odors and harm to marine organisms.

NASSAU HOT LINE

Nassau County residents can now call (516) 535-2451 to discover the location of neighborhood recycling center, a concerned environmental group or the proper agency to report air pollution violations. The "hot line," operated by Nassau County Environmental Management, was set up to act as a channel for Nassau residents seeking to report violations of county environmental standards.

CONTRIBUTIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED

please recyle any new information, suggestions, citizen actions, State or local activities to Max Friedman, EPA Public Affairs, Room 1005, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10007.

ATLANTIC COALITION PUBLIC MEETING TO EXPLORE "SLUDGE PROBLEMS"

The Atlantic Coalition announces a public meeting Thursday, December 12th, 1974, at 8:00p.m., at the Hofstra Law School (Rm. 238).

Anthony S. Taormina, Director of Marine & Coastal Resources for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, will be the guest speaker for the first of a series of discussions.

As a continuation of the Atlantic Coalitions's work, the lectures will bring experts in all phases of the problem into public discussions.

The Atlantic Coalition is a relatively new organization, bringing together sports clubs, conservation groups, and organizations concerned with all aspects of the marine environmenta.

With renewed concern over the pollution of the marine environment off Atlantic Beach, the Coalition's work became important to many. With the announced experimental sewer

The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE ONLY WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

Volume 9, Number 48 December 12th, 1974

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ABOUT THE COVER: Capt. Archie Jost gaffs a nice striped bass trolled in the rips under the Montauk Light this summer.

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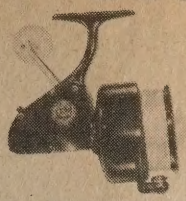
New Products



NEW PENN 706 SPINFISHER

A new spinning reel has been developed by Penn at meet the increasing demand by surf fishermen for a manual pickup without a bail. The Penn No. 706—which is also ideal for light-tackle trolling—has a capacity of approximately 300 yards of 20 lb. test line, or 350 yards of 17 lb. test. The reel—which is available in both left and right hand (No. 707) winds—has a gear ratio of 3.8 to 1.

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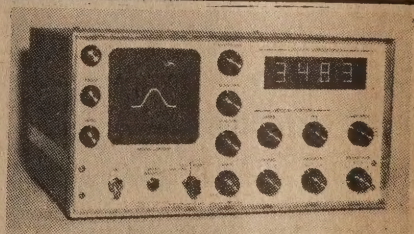

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GOIN' FISHING?

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sludge dumping off Fire Island, it became vital to most Long Islanders.

Scientists, divers and boatmen of the Coalition have been engaged in researching "sludge" deposits off Atlantic Beach, Long Beach and Lido Beach, while other Coalition members have been exploring the alternatives to our present ocean dumping practices.

Chum Lines

FISHERMAN SEEKS SURF CLUB MEMBERSHIP

I enjoy reading your magazine every week for its surf fishing information. Could you please place a note that I am interested in joining a surf club. **Michael Fasanella, (212) 465-0665.**

OMIGOSHAGAIN

G.V. you did it again. In issue #45 Mr. Glayer asked about the weight of a bass 40" long with a 21½" girth. You answered that it weighed about 3½ to 6 lbs. In issue 46 Mr. Withers pointed out that a bass 40" long and with a 21½" girth could not weigh 6 lbs. You admitted you made amistake in estimating the weight and then by saying that the above dimensions—40" long by 21½" width—do not apply to a normal striped bass. I beg to differ with you. This fall I caught a bass of 39" length and 21½" girth which weighed 27½ lbs. and it was a normal striped bass. Based on my fish, Mr. Glayer's fish must of weighed about 28½ lbs. Please be good enough to pass this information on the Mr. Glayer. **Michael Saracco, Brooklyn.**

AHA! Mr. Saracco was the only reader [up till press time of this issue] that caught the wrong answer to the striped bass controversy, which only goes to show that our other readers either don't read or don't catch bass. Shame!

Actually, "G.V." has had a letter from another reader - Charles Joscher - in hand for three weeks, a letter Mr. Joscher sent in response to Mr. Glazer's original question, and which provides the answer. See below. G.V.

While reading the November 14 issue of your fine magazine (to which I am a subscriber), I noticed the letter written concerning information about weight, length and girth of striped bass.

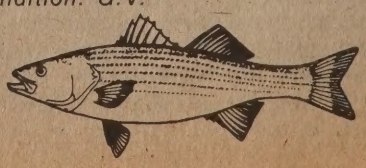
Duing the last three years I have been keeping a list of this type of information which I carry on my boat "Wilgo" to help me keep track of bass which I release but need weight data for bothe the Schaefer fishing contest and my own club contest.

I measure the length and girth and check the list. If the fish is big enough for my own contest I will keep him. All others throughout the season will be either released or used for tablefare. Maybe this list could be helpful to you readers if they don't wish to carry a scale on the beach or in their boats, and still would like to release their catch. A tape measure is much easier to carry.

These fish were mostly caught on Friday and Saturday night as I am a weekend fishermen. All on spinning tackle with plugs or live eels with my father William joscher of Richmond Hill. I'm still looking for the 50 pounder. **Charles Joscher, Woodhaven.**

Our appreciation to Mr. Joscher for passing along the information. We might add that the list of fish is long, and we do not have the space to print it—regretfully. The fish weighed from 9 lb.-10 oz. (30½" X 15") to 46 lb.-2 oz. (48" 'x 28½) and are listed on three pages.

Taking all the 40" long bass, however, we averaged their girths and weights and came to the following result: Mr. Joscher's average 40" bass had a girth of 22 1/8" and weighed 24¾ pounds. Therefore Mr. Glazer's fish (normal) at 40" X 21½ probably weighed about 25 pounds, though it could have weighed anywhere from 21-26 pounds, depending upon its condition. G.V.



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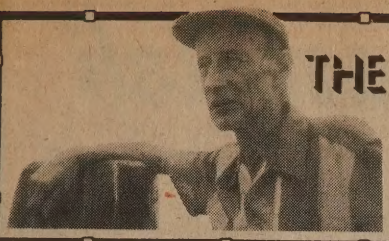


THE BOTTOM LINE

with Matt Ahern

THE EASY WAY Part Two

Many fishermen don't pay enough attention to the selection of hooks. If it looks okay to do the job, they feel this is all that's necessary. There are many varieties of hooks on the market, all made to do their jobs in their special way. The wise fisherman takes an abiding interest in hooks.

Buy the best. There isn't much price difference between a good hook and one that's cheaply made, but there's a vast difference in hooking quality an strength. Don't lose your dream fish because of a few pennies.

Below is a recommended list of hooks for the fish most often caught from party boats. Stay as close to these sizes as possible; they'll do the job for you.

Blackfish—Virginia, #4 to 8 (size 6 preferable).

Cod and Pollock—Sproat, 5/0 to 7/0.

Ling and whiting—Sproat, 3/0 to 4/0.

Sea porgy—Sproat, 1/0 to 2/0.

Bay porgy—Sproat, 4 to 6.

Sea bass—Sproat, 3/0 to 5/0.

Fluke—Carlisle or Kirby, 3/0 to 5/0 on three foot leader.

Flounder—Chestertown, 9 to 10, or Sproat number 6.

It's to the fisherman's advantage to have several types of hooks and various sinker weights along. Often party boats try for one species of fish in the morning and another later in the day; should this happen you'll be ready. Also, when fishing over obstruction-littered bottom the mortality rate on terminal tackle is apt to be high. Extra tackle can always be purchased on board, if needed.

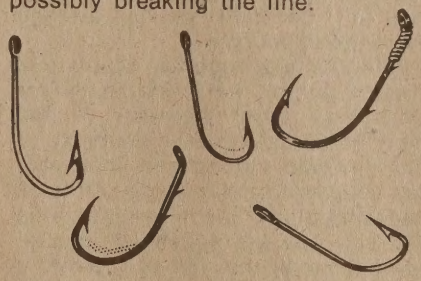
Some fishermen treat sinkers with the disregard given fish hooks. But like hooks, each type of sinker is made for a specific job in mind. For party boat fishing the best type is the bank sinker. Its tear-drop shape makes it less likely to become snagged; it's the only type to use.

Correct sinker weight is important. While summer fishing offshore, five to eight ounce sinkers are usually satisfactory; during winter ones of from eight to twelve ounces may be necessary. The sinker must be able to hold bottom while anchored or drifting.

Carrying all this extra tackle makes a bulky, heavy tackle box. To get around this some fishermen use two boxes, one for lighter summer fishing and one for winter, when everything in creases proportionately.

Needless to say, these boxes must be of rust-proof material. Ordinary steel tackle boxes will soon become worthless no matter how well-painted. Either use one of aluminum or select one of the many fine plastic boxes available in tackle shops. If you're handy, making one of wood is an enjoyable project.

Should you hook into a large fish, play it carefully. Remember: it can't escape if well-hooked and the drag is properly set. Take your time and don't attempt to lift it aboard without the aid of a net or gaff. Leave your fish quietly in the water until help comes. Be sure to keep the fish's head in the water; failure to do so will cause the frightened fish to thrash about, quite possibly breaking the line.



Be careful unhooking any fish known to have sharp teeth, particularly bluefish and fluke. It's sometimes necessary to stun the fish with a billy before removing the hook with pliers or a patented hook disgorger. Don't take unnecessary chances with those powerful jaws. There may also be a temporarily forgotten second hook whirling about.

Many fishermen prefer fishing from the stern of a party boat, no doubt feeling it gives them an advantage. I can't see it that way myself. Just as many fish, including pool winners, are taken from both sides of the boat, up to and including the bow—especially the bow. The only advantage I believe the stern has is during cold, windy days when this area offers more shelter.

Sometimes, when chumming for mackerel and blues, the prevailing currents and set of the boat will drift the "soup" to the stern. Under these conditions the stern fisherman will have more action. When that happens, the crewman will soon ladle the chum in such a manner that everyone has his fair chance at the fish.

The same applies to wreck fishing. Should most of the fish be concentrated at the stern, the captain will rectify that by changing the boat's position so that the availability of fish is evenly distributed.

When drifting, everyone has an equal chance. But tradition says the stern is best and most fishermen will flock there, some arriving hours before sailing time to assure themselves of this spot. The choice is yours, but don't be disappointed if the stern is occupied. Fish anywhere you choose, always keeping in mind it's the skill of the fisherman that fills the bucket, not a choice rail location.

When the day's fishing is over, the wise fisherman cleans his catch during the run back to port. Not only will fish keep better when this is done, but it's no fun picking scales from walls and ceilings at home. The distaff member of your family will appreciate this, too.

If able to, the mate will gladly clean your catch. Don't forget a small remuneration is usually in order for this chore. Also remember to make arrangements as soon as possible; other fishermen often have the same idea.

While the mate will be found to be a past-master at the art of fish cleaning, he has other duties to perform, so it's to your advantage to learn how to clean your catch. It isn't difficult and if you spend a few minutes watching it being done, you'll soon get the hang of it. Some fishermen enjoy the job. Besides, it's all part of becoming a well-rounded fisherman!

Part boat "regulars" are a special breed unto themselves. They offer fine companionship, are master fishermen, and are always willing to share their knowledge with the beginner: a finer group of men you will seldom meet. So don't despair when you see them catching fish with machine-like precision. Never hesitate to ask for advice. They know how it is to so-desperately want fish and they'll cheerfully help out.

One thing is certain: party boat fishing will make of you an excellent fisherman much sooner than you thought possible. It may not be the only road toward this goal, but it's one of the best.

And isn't that what you want?

Western Sound Blackfish

Part Two

by Tony DiLernia

Heading up the Sound now, the next spot that I would recommend is the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point. Here there is a rock sea-wall protecting the academy's harbor. You should anchor about twenty yards off the rock wall and cast towards it. Action here usually isn't too fast, but the fish can be big. I personally know of someone who nailed a fifteen-pounder here last year.

Going further up the Sound we come upon Stepping Stone Lighthouse. This structure draws baby blacks, half-pound to a pound and a half, like a magnet draws iron filings. Just anchor off the lighthouse and cast towards it, placing your sinker about five feet off the rocks. There are times when action is so fast here that if you count to twenty after your line hits the water and you don't have a fish you can be sure that you haven't any bait. Any phase of the tide is good, but if you fish when the tide is moving rather than slack you'll catch fewer small fish.

If fast action is your cup of tea, then this is the place. One point, though. Please return the very small fish back to the water and not to your fish pail.

Right in the area of Stepping Stone Light there are three large rocks that are awash at low tide. These rocks have given me some of the fastest blackfishing that I've ever had. You can see the rocks, spaced about two hundred yards apart, on a calm day when the tide is low. But on a choppy day or at high tide you need ranges to find the rocks.

If you are traveling on a straight line between the red number 48 buoy off Fort Schyler to the black number 29 can off Hewlett Point, you will have one of the rocks on your port side only a few yards away when the red number 4 nun buoy off Kings Point forms a straight line to Stepping Stone Light.

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Using these exact ranges only a couple of weeks ago, two friends of mine, Tommy Felice and Richie Cotter, along with myself collected fifty blacks in an hour and a half after a good morning of bass fishing. We would have caught more, only we ran through the quart and a half of fiddlers that we had and we didn't have any more bait.

When fishing these rocks, just remember to fish the up-tide side of the rocks. The water moves too fast along the down-tide side and the blacks don't seem to like it. Fish the slower-moving water in front of the rocks and you'll catch fish.

Moving further out into the Sound we come across Hewlett and Barker's Points. These two points are on either side of the entrance to Manhasset bay and are very rocky. Action here generally is slow, but some of the fish are big. Ten-pounders are taken here each fall; generally the fish average two to four pounds.

When fishing these two points use to same caution that I recommend for Whitestone Point because of the many rocks just under the surface. In fact, I would recommend that your first couple of trips to these points be made only at low tide in daylight. This way you can get a general idea of where the rocks are. When you return at high tide to fish you can get in amongst the rocks and not on top of them.

About two-thirds of a mile off of Barkers Point on a true course of 320° you'll find Gangway Rock. It's actually a cluster of rocks with a small flashing light tower on top of them. Fish all around these rocks, casting and putting your sinker about five feet off them. Don't be too surprised if you reel in an occasional small lobster, especially if you are using clams.

Remember the carapace or the hard, top front part of the lobster has to be 3 1/16" long for the lobster to qualify as a "keeper". Anything smaller—along with those females carrying eggs—has to be put back.

Sands and Prospect Points are the next points that you pass as you travel to Execution Lighthouse, and both of these points you should try at high tide. Again, when approaching these points, be careful; sometimes you could swear that a rock saw your boat coming and jumped under it.

After passing these two points you come upon Execution Lighthouse. Execution light is named for the rocks that it sits on. In the 1600's the governor of New York executed pirates that were captured by tying them to the rocks at low tide and waiting for the tide to come in. These rocks may have served as good instruments for the punishing of pirates, but they also yield good blackfishing in both size and quantity.

Almost any spot around the lighthouse is good for fishing, but there is a wreck about a hundred yards off the north side of the light that can provide exceptionally good action. The fish can be one to fifteen pounds in size here, so be prepared with lines testing twenty to forty pounds in strength and strong hooks.

In fact, in all the areas that I have mentioned, I would recommend using lines of this test, along with a good conventional boat rod and matching reel. Leave the spinning tackle at home. You can use it, I have, but often you need just brute strength to yank a big black out of the rocks, and most spinning rods don't have the backbone to do this.

The terminal tackle that you would use in the areas I've mentioned is simple. Two hooks—one snelled to the other about six inches above you sinker—is all you need. Sinker weight is dictated by the water conditions on the day you're fishing, but generally two or three ounces will be enough.

Well—there you have it! You may have noticed that most of the spots that I've recommended are on the Long Island side of the Sound. I've done this for a reason. These are the areas that my friends and I have fished over the years and proven. I'm sure that there are good spots on the other side of the Sound, but I'm not as familar with them and I don't want to send you off on a wild goose chase.

One last thing. The water can be rough in this area at this time of the year, so be careful and try to fish on the days when there isn't much wind and the water is flat.

If you're not sure whether you should go out or not, then stay in. Your indecision indicates that deep down inside you feel you may not be capable of handling the water, and so the best course of action is not to go out at all.

But if the days are warm and the breezes gentle, go out and fill your fishbox.

Surf Side with Doc Muller

A Case for Breaking the Bottle-Plug and Darter Habit

Most of you know already that Montauk has been flooded with small bass this fall. The action began on the south side (ouch, my ankles!) and, by the end of October, had occasionally spread to north side beaches, too.

The fish were choosy because they were fattening on small bait which consisted mostly of spearing, anchovies and sand eels. A new phenomenon appeared on the Montauk beaches. Hordes of tiny Swedish swimming plugs came out of the blackness to slap on the wave crests and in the troughs. The scene was very comical. A picket fence of 13 foot surfsticks throwing 3½-5 inch plugs seemed absurd.

It's funny that the same guys who laughed a couple of years ago when I suggested that there was a time and place for all lures (even Swedish swimmers at Montauk) were now hurrying to every tackle emporium to stock up on Rebels, Redfins and Rapalas.

Where argument and rationale could not convince them, swarms of fish made converts of them overnight. Listen, guys, do you know that there's a fella who fishes north shore in spring and summer and is a Montauk regular in the fall who has been pulling big bass out of the south side on Redfins for years!

Back to the pros and cons. Bottle plugs and darters offer the advantage of longer casts. However, the action of some other plugs is often better, particularly when compared to the smaller sizes of bottle plugs and darters. So what does a guy do when the fish are feeding on the small stuff? Then, too, the bottle plugs and darters are very expensive; although most are around four dollars, I've seen some priced over five! Okay, a lot of you make your own. But you've got to admit that those bottles aren't easy to make. Many other plugs are less expensive and it makes sense to round out your tackle bag with a variety of plugs available.

These two heavy plugs are difficult to use with light tackle. The best that a guy can hope for is a gentle toss. It really doesn't make any sense to fish with heavy tackle if you do not have to. Light rods, reels and lines allow the fishermen to have more fun with small fish and give him better casting control for short distances. If you can use light tackle the terminal end of your attack should match the rod and reel.

Bottle plugs and darters are not the best lures when the fish are not feeding actively. In order to catch fish during these difficult times it takes a lure that irritates or excites the fish into striking. When bass are picky there's no better plug than a skin plug, and every surfmen worth his salt should carry one and use it at appropriate times.

I remember the night that a guy I work with walked onto North Bar with a mess of skin plugs. The assembled multitudes were catching stray bluefish with those big, heavy, bottle plugs. My friend pulled a dozen good bass right from under their noses with the skin plugs, yet everbody continued to cast the hunks of wood undaunted, unimpressed and unsuccessful!

Stubborn behavior is not only manifested by plug fishermen. With the volume of publicity given to live bait fishing, more and more guys are drowning more and more eels. If we don't watch it the eels are going to hold a convention and declare surf fishermen null and void. But do you know that artificial eels like the Tri-Fin and Alou can sometimes work as well or better than the real thing—especially in the fall?

At Parking Field Nine on a recent expedition I couldn't believe that dozens of casters were throwing live eels beyond the breakers and not one had the insight to bring along a second rod, make the ten foot trek to the water's edge, and throw an artificial eel while the live one did its thing in the solitude of the undertow.

Since the larger sizes of the bottle plugs and darters have the best action, and since the smaller versions are pale by comparison the surfcaster who sticks to them as his "night-in and night-out" lures severely limits his possibilities.

Whatever happened to the surfcaster who prided himself in the exercise of his hard-won skills? The true surfmen is a specialist whose knowledge and experience prevent him from being outfished by a novice. But I rarely see the guys walking the shallows anymore in search of bait. More often than not, a would-be fishermen walks onto the sand, picks out a lure that he likes, then begins pounding the water.

The plug should match the bait whenever possible, and a search for bait will help the angler in his selection. If four-to six-inch bait dominates the area it is absurd to throw monster plugs. Okay. Before you all get upset, I realize that the old saying goes "big plugs, big fish." But think about the notion that on a least some of the nights that you went fishless, it was because the big fish were eating the little bait, too.

I'm not trying to make an argument against the use of bottle plugs and darters. However, I am suggesting tha they have their place and it isn't every time you fish. Those big plugs should be an important part of your arsenal and they should be used when you need distance and when the big fish are feeding on big baits. What troubles me is the exclusivity of their use by some fishermen.

We all get into ruts from time to time, and I'm as guilty as the next guy. We begin to make the strong mental association between certain spots that we fish and the lures that were successful there. But when conditions change we often don't, and we continue to throw the same lure. I possibly mised-out on a blitz this year because in the excitement of watching big, rolling fish virtually at my feet, I forgot much of the knowledge of plugs that I have. I stuck with a plug that I often use in that location and I watched those fish for half an hour without success.

Let's summarize:

1. The size of the bait in th area not habit should dictate the size of the plug.
2. Use heavy plug when conditions call for them.
3. Bottle plugs and darters are expensive, while many other effective plugs are cheaper.
4. Many other plugs have a better action than the bottle plugs and darters.
5. The heavy plugs are difficult to use with light tackle and light tackle is preferred for small fish.
6. Skin plugs are often more effective than other big plugs when the fish are picky.
7. Artificial eels are often more effective when the fish are deep and lethargic.

Fishing Daze Are Here to Stay!

by Tom Hagen

A realistic guide to angling in fresh, salt and soda water

Part One

Every fish has a mouth. Every fisherman has a hook. The ideal conclusion to this arrangement is to have the fish ingest the hook and begin his countdown for a journey atop a Blue Plate Special. It is not, however, quite that simple. A thorough knowledge of the fish, his habitat, feeding habits, spawning season (a rather short period which inspired that famous quote, "Pity the poor fish."), and his aquatic athletics is essential to the fisherman who desires a full catch at the end of a day.

Of course, for fresh water fishing, a license is suggested for most states unless you favor losing at hide-'n-seek with an irate game warden.

Experts estimate that there are about 15,000 different kinds of fish...and about 30,000,000 different kinds of fishermen. All fish live in water; some fishermen live in houseboats. At this point, the syllogism breaks down. To be scientifically classified as a fish, the creature must have gills. Being "loaded to the gills" does not classify anyone into the fish category. Rather, it removes the inebriate from consideration in this particular article.

Further, to be a true fish, the beast must have fins, and it must not, I repeat, must not at any time during its life have legs. The polliwog, therefore, disqualified on account of a double set of Athlete's Foot.

Gills serve fish by taking oxygen out of the air that is dissolved in water. How much air is in the water is dependent upon the chemical formula H_2O...two parts hydrogen to one part oxygen. To say that water is one third air is incorrect. If such was fact, Salt Lake City would be much too alkaline for its population.

Actually, water is nothing more than enormous number of melted ice cubes joined together for the lack of anything else to do.

Gills are constructed of a series of thin threads or branches of living tissue. Oxygen passes through the tissue into the blood of the fish. Even the most novice of fishermen must admit that a true fish will not live long out of water, since it cannot breathe the air that sustains the mammal. In no way does the air pollution from factories and automobiles bear the blame for this situation.

Millions of years before smokestacks existed, primitive man discovered that there is nothing deader than a dead fish out of water. Coincident to this information came the knowledge that nothing smells worse than a dead fish out of water for any unreasonable length of time. Dead Sea Scrolls have revealed that many an ancestor would rather trade body blows with a brontosaurus than inhale the aroma of a deceased flounder. The same is true of many present day fishermen who are best tolerated when they are downwind.

Behind the gills of every fish you will find fins. Now, fins serve a two-fold purpose. Tail fins, plus the tail, are the locomotive device a fish employs in getting from place to place. Side and top fins assure the fish of getting where it's going, right-side-up...help keep its balance. Never has a skindiver reported seeing a fish swim upside down except in the case of an attacking man-eating shark, in which event the skindiver's report ends on an unfinished sentence.

Fish raise and lower themselves in the water by using air sacs called swim bladders. To go down, a fish lets some air out of its swim bladders. To go up, the fish forces more air into the sacs. This principle of submersion was a great help in the development of our earliest submarines. Ballast tanks on either side of the submersible were filled with water to submerge...pumped with air to surface. This contribution by fish is acknowledge by German historians as being one of the prime factors in permitting them to participate actively in World War 1.

The United States Navy, on the other hand, honored the swimbladder principle of naming our conventional submarines after particular fish; i.e., The Skate, Skipjack, etc.

The Kingfish, under exclusive contract to Amos and Andy, could not be similarly rewarded.

For the names of U.S. Atomic Powered submarines, call Abercrombie and Fitch.

It is important to say again that no fish ever has legs, although a few fish do sometimes use their fins as legs and make short excursions out of the water. The climbing perch is one example, and a good one at that.

Imagine trying to convince a fellow angler, or even a non-drinker, that you watched a perch climb a tree. How he would laugh as he restrained you with your own fish net.

All fish have blood—cold blood! Their body temperature is the same degree Fahrenheit as the water surrounding them. Some fish can become very cold without being harmed. Fish have been known to survive being frozen in a block of ice, and then swim away when the ice has melted. Such information should convince the reader never to linger over a Cutty Sark highball...belt the scotch down before the fish gets a chance at it.

The above gulping-down suggestion does not pertain when an electric eel is frozen into your ice cube. The contact between lips and charged water may very well result in turning your dental plate into a 32-transistor portable radio. But, more about fish!

All fish have eyes, but no eyelids. No one ever saw a fish wink. Not even a lady fish being seduced by a boy fish. Most fish have one eye on each side of the head, which is only fair.

Some fish, like flounder, fluke and their relatives, swim on their side and have both eyes on the upper side of the head.

The lower side of the head is but an extension of the fish's stomach, and is most often nested in the mud when the fish is resting or waiting for dinner. This leads to a variety of complications for members of the flounder family and, more often than not, results in an epitath reading: Filet of Sole...Coleslaw, F.F. Potatoes & Coffee———$2.25.

What look like ears on a fish are actually pectoral fins used for navigation. Fish do not have outer ears but they do have ears deep in

their heads. Confirmed "sinker bouncers," salt water fishermen who forage at the water's bottom, swear that the sound of sinkers knocking against the sand or mud will aid in attracting fish to the bait. This has never been proven. However, a boatload of sinker bouncers, or S.B.'s, as they are known to other fishermen, have been known to flatten a sizable sandbar in 30 minutes.

A keen sense of smell is of great importance to every fish. Nostrils, used only for smelling, are located right above the mouth of the fish. Some authorities contend that fish locate their food by smell alone...not by sight or sound. This knowledge is imparted to suggest that everyone at least take a shower before getting into a bathtub with a barracuda. When you're in up to your chin, lay quietly 'til the fish swims away.

Most fish have no real home, except the vast reaches of water they inhabit. A few, like the stickleback, build nests and guard their eggs. Once hatched, the young sticklebacks often become hors d' oeuvres for either mother or dad. Fortunately, fish lay a great many eggs, and more are born to swim away than can be eaten by their child-loving parents. If this were not true, the fish population would soon be reduced to two fish with nothing to eat but each other. Two fish divided by 30,000,000 anglers would leave small pickin's for the late-rising fisherman.

The largest fish in the world today is the whale shark, often reaching a length of 50 feet. This is generally the type of fish that "got away." The goby, only about ½ inch long at full maturity, is the species that generally populates the fisherman's creel.

Fish have so many different names, and so many names that are the same, that nomenclature can become very confusing. Take the bass. There are smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, black bass, striped bass, sea bass———and Bass Ale, which as a point of truth is a delightful substitute when none of the other bass are around.

Fish names run through the alphabet from albacore to zingel, a perch found in European rivers. Each of the 15,000 alphabetic varieties are born to test the skill of time, tide and tireless angler.

They can, however, be broken into three very broad categories to aid the fisherman in his quest for a full catch. These catergories include: 1. Tropical Fish; 2. Electric Fish; 3. Game Fish.

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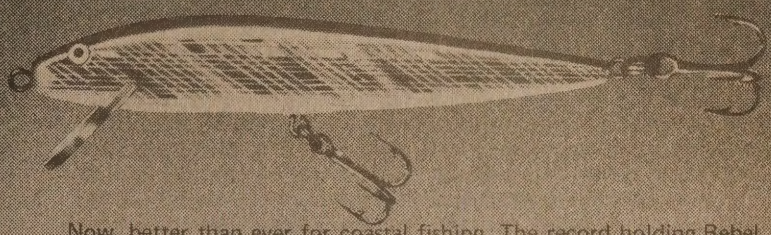

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Whiting Fishing Nights

by Vlad Evanoff

I started fishing for whiting on the Steeplechase Pier and from the rock jetties located at Coney Island. I was still going to high school and many a night after I got home, did my homework and had dinner, I would get dressed in war clothing and take the subway from Manhattan to Brooklyn and Coney Island. Usually I went alone and met some of my friends on the pier or rocks, but other times I would go with a buddy or two.

I'll never forget that December night when three of us went out on a rock jetty at Coney Island during low tide and started to fish for whiting. We should have sensed something was wrong because the whiting weren't biting at all. Then, as the tide started flooding, we noticed ground swells and big waves coming in. We turned around and found that the water was covering most of the jetty behind us; we were trapped! we picked the highest rock we could find and huddled together. At first we tried to save our baskets and bags, but as the tide rose it covered our rock, too, and part of our legs. We lost the baskets and bags.

We stood in that chilly water for three or four hours before the tide dropped enough for us to get off. We must have looked like a sorry mess when we took the subway for the ride home. But at least we were safe and, strange as it seems, we didn't get pnuemonia or even a cold from the experience.

Then there was that other December night when I went out to fish for whiting on the rocks by myself. As usual, I headed out for the front of the jetty and cast into the deeper water. It has been my experience that the biggest whiting are usually caught there, rather than closer to shore where you get the small ones. This night there were about a dozen other anglers fishing on the rocks behind me. I felt pretty cold and chilly, bu the whiting were biting fairly regularly and I kept pulling in nice-sized ones of about a pound and a half on almost every cast. When I threw them into the basket they would freeze solid in a short time. The bait also froze and broke in half when you tried to put it on the hook. Then ice started to form on the guides of my fishing rod and also on the line soon after it was reeled in from the water. My hands were numb with cold, despite the wool gloves I had on.

I kept on fishing, but then the fish sort of stopped biting and I had to wait a long time for each bite. I kept on fishing for another couple of hours. But finally I started to feel the cold penetrating through me and began shivering a bit, so I decided it was time to leave and started to pack up my gear. I turned around and was shocked to find out that the rocks were almost empty. Almost all of the other fishermen had gone home.

I climbed off the rocks with my mess of whiting and gear, had a hot bowl of clam chowder and a hot dog at *Nathan's Famous*, which stayed open all night, boarded the subway and rode home. It was cold walking through the deserted streets, but I finally made it and entered the warm apartment. My mother got up to greet me saying, "Where were you? It's three o'clock in the morning, and you out there fishing on the coldest night of the year! The next day when I picked up a copy of the *New York Daily News* I saw what she meant. The temperature had dropped to 5 degrees during the night.

But the whiting fishermen were a rugged breed in the old days, with no insulated underwear or boots to keep them warm. Yet they would go out in heavy overcoats and jackets, woolen underwear and two or three pairs of socks. They they often fished all night in November, December and at times into January when the whiting were running.

Today's whiting fisherman has other advantages besides better clothing and footwear. He has spinning rods and reels and light monofilament lines which make fishing easier, more effective and more fun. We used fairly heavy conventional rods and reels and thick lines, and the whiting were usually hauled in with little fight.

Still, we caught plenty of whiting and on many nights those who caught more than others would sell their excess fish right on the pier. Or when

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the pier was crowded and the fish were not running too well, those on the rocks had less competition and would usually catch more fish. Then they would go to the pier and sell some of their fish.

But the whiting is one of my favorite fish on the table and I really enjoyed some pan-fried whiting the next day after a night's fishing. I usually gave away any extra fish I caught to friends, relatives and neighbors. Nowadays, with freezers you can put in enough whiting to last you all winter and into the spring if you want to. Whiting also taste delicious when smoked, and you can have this done any place where they smoke eels or other fish.

Whiting can be caught on almost any kind of fishing tackle, from heavy conventional rods to fly rods. Most anglers find an 8- or 9-foot spinning rod best for this because you can then cast a rig with several hooks on the line on short snells. The best hooks are the long-shank Aberdeen or Carlisle patterns in sizes from 3/0 to 5/0, depending on the size of the whiting running.

You can start fishing with such baits as spearing, sand eels or strips of squid. But after you catch your first whiting, cut it into narrow strips and use these for bait. They are tough and you can usually catch several fish on the same bait.

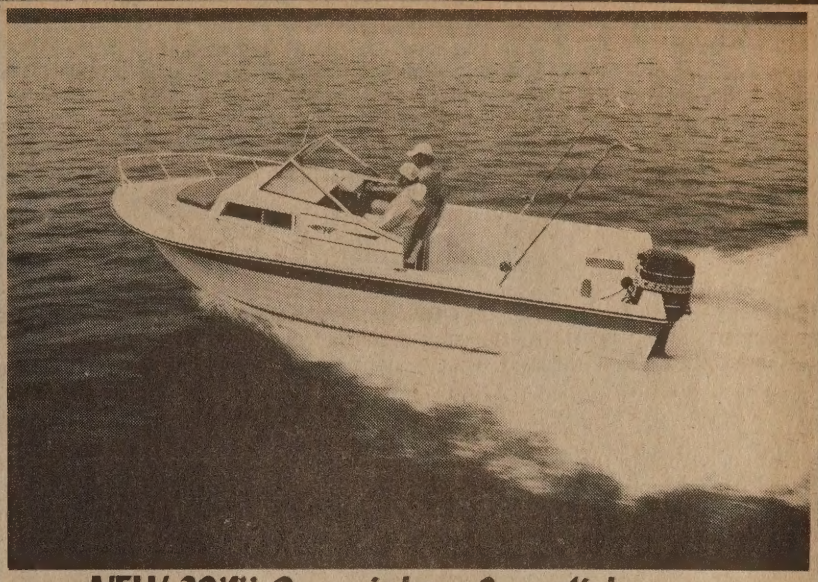
When the whiting are really running it is easy to fill up a bushel basket or burlap bag. But on the nights when things are slow, you may have to use all your skill and know-how to make even a decent catch.

First, if you are fishing from a pier, bridge or bulkhead, try to pick a spot near a bright light. This attracts baitfish and these in turn draw more whiting to the spot. Or bring along a lantern or lights which you can suspend just above the water to serve the same purpose.

If you are fishing on a crowded pier or bridge try casting your line way out where you will have less competition from the lines of other anglers who merely lower their rigs below the pier or bridge.

And you'll usually get more bites if you give your bait some movement. One way to do this is to work your rod tip up and down in short, quick movements so that the bait will also have some action.

I've found that the best nights for whiting fishing along the Long Island and New Jersey coasts take place when the water is fairly calm and clean. A wind from the west, northwest or north will usually produce better fishing than onshore winds which make the water rough or dirty.



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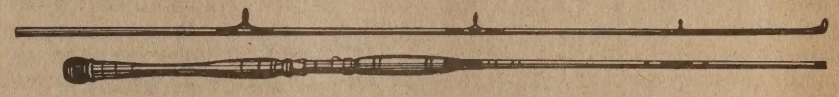

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Mistakes Beginners Make

by Scott Simons

Part I

There are breeds of fishermen: beginners, bad fishermen, and good fishermen. While the bad and good fishermen will catch fish in direct proportion to their skills and the availability of fish, the only fish the beginner will catch will be the result of pure luck. To assume otherwise, taking into consideration mistakes of beginners, is to presuppose a fish's poor survival characteristics.

What exactly is it that classifies a fisherman as a beginner? Obviously, the first time someone goes fishing he is a beginner. But, from that point on, there is no set time limit to when a beginner will suddenly find himself elevated to the status of an accomplished angler.

A fisherman on only his fourth or fifth outing can consistently out-fish a veteran of many years, with luck never entering the picture, simply because he has quickly overcome the basic mistakes of beginners. On the same hand, the veteran many never have overcome them and, therefore, retains the status of "beginner"—despite his years of experience!

From my own observations, there seem to be five basic mistakes made by a beginner. He can make all or only a few of them, but the fact that he makes even one might be reflected in a poor catch.

For comparative purposes, we will assume that a beginner and an accomplished angler are fishing in the same boat. They have located fish, are using the same bait, and benefit from the same chum pot...these things all being equal, the veteran manages to out-fish the beginner. Why? More than likely, the beginner is committing one or more of the following five mistakes:

UNBALANCED TACKLE: The rod and reel you fish with must take into consideration the size of the fish you are seeking. For example, if the outfit you use for flounder fishing is also capable of catching cod fish, then it is far too heavy for flounder.

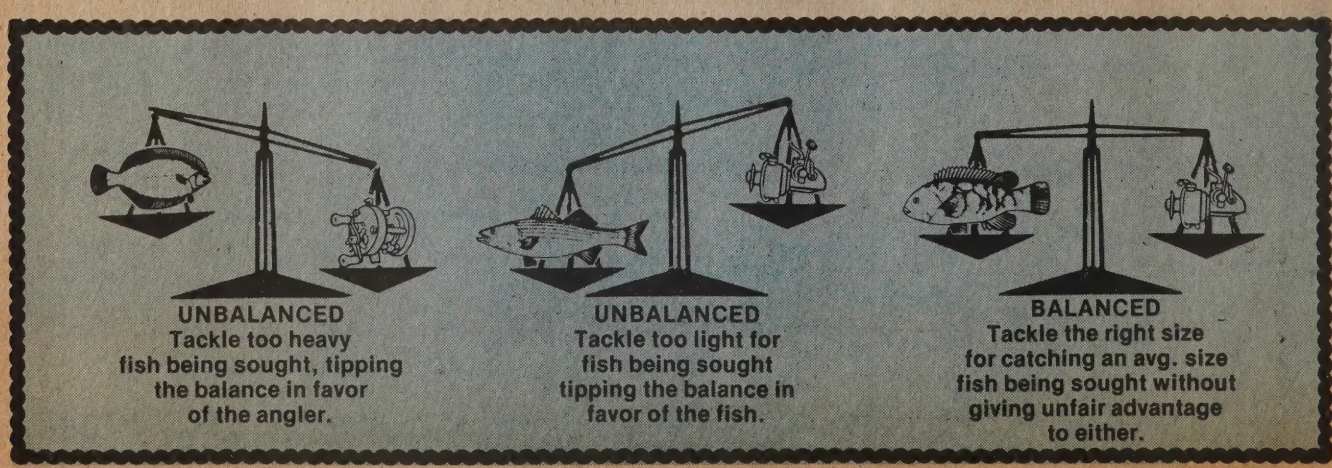
While you may easily feel a cod fish biting on this outfit, it is not likely that you will detect a softly-nibbling flounder. You will constantly be losing your bait, with few fish to show for your efforts, and these will be caught without a hint of sport involved.

Some years ago a friend and I boarded an open boat in Captree early one morning to take a shot at the spring mackerel run. One-handed, light spinners in tow, we walked around the boat, searching for an open spot on the rail to stake our claim. As we passed the many rods lining the rail (claiming positions for their owners,) Frank commented, "I hope the tuna don't chase all the mackerel away."

What an array of tackle! Codfish rods and reels spooled with 50-lb. mono, heavy-duty surf outfits, rods with roller guides and tips; one suspected that their owners had to settle for these outfits when their wives wouldn't let them cut the handles off a favorite broom.

Although there were more than thirty anglers on board, only two light spinners other than our own were in evidence. When the fishing began, I concede that the spinners were being out-fitted two or three to one. While everyone else was using mackerel trees and boating two or more mackerel at a clip, we were confined to single, 1-oz. diamond jigs for the simple reason that our light rods weren't capable of lifting multiple fish into the boat. I would hasten to add, however, that no one had as much fun or experienced the same sport as we did with our "balanced" tackle.

While the use of unbalanced tackle above did not hinder the angler's ability to catch fish—in fact, it increased the total catch—it certainly did take the SPORT out of fishing. But if the same anglers had reversed themselves and sought tuna with one-handed spinners, they would still be using unbalanced tackle—without the sacrifice of sport—although they most certainly would have a difficult time boating a tuna. The trick, therefore, lies in reaching a compromise between the size and fighting ability of the fish sought and tackle used. Picture a balance scale with your tackle on one end and a fish on the opposite end. If your tackle is balanced, the imaginary scale would work like this: An "average" size fish will give neither tackle nor fish an advantage, so the scale



UNBALANCED
Tackle too heavy fish being sought, tipping the balance in favor of the angler.

UNBALANCED
Tackle too light for fish being sought tipping the balance in favor of the fish.

BALANCED
Tackle the right size for catching an avg. size fish being sought without giving unfair advantage to either.

will balance. A small fish will tip the scale in favor of the tackle and the angler will easily win, while a large fish will tip the scale in his favor, so you'll have a real battle on your hands.

WRONG RIG. Once you have learned that the various species require different rigs under various conditions, you have the problem half-beaten.

You can't use a rig designed for blackfish to catch flounders, or a porgy rig for fluke. There's no need for trial and error here, for the proper rigs for each fish have been tried and tested, and it only remains for you to find out what they are by reading about them, or by observing an experienced fisherman, and then using the correct rig yourself.

To lick the second half of the problem, you must know your hooks. Using the wrong size or style of hook is a common error of beginners. Hook styles take into consideration the size of a species' mouth and his feeding habits, so one style of hook can be much preferred over another for each species. (See the article "Selecting Hooks," L.I.F. Volume 9, Number 6, for more information on how to select the proper hook for the various species.)

A good rule of thumb for selecting the size of the hook you use is: "It is easier to catch a big fish on a small hook than it is to catch small fish on a big hook." So, when in doubt, lean to the smaller hook.

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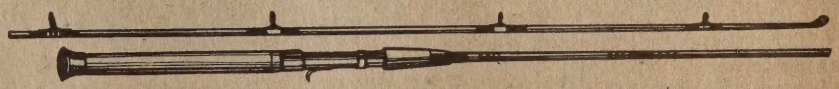

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WINTER BLUEFISH

BY FRED GUARDINEER

WOULD YOU BELIEVE BLUES ON A CODFISH RIG ?

IT'S BEEN GOING ON ALL FALL IN THE 80 FT. DEPTHS OF THE ATLANTIC OCEAN ALONG THE SOUTHSHORE OF LONG ISLAND – WHERE THE ACTION IS! IT'S STILL GOING ON AND STARTLED CODFISHERMEN ARE TANGLING WITH THESE BATTLERS WHICH AVERAGE 10-12 LBS.

THESE BLUES REALLY TAKE OFF AND USUALLY TANGLE UP HALF-A-DOZEN LINES!

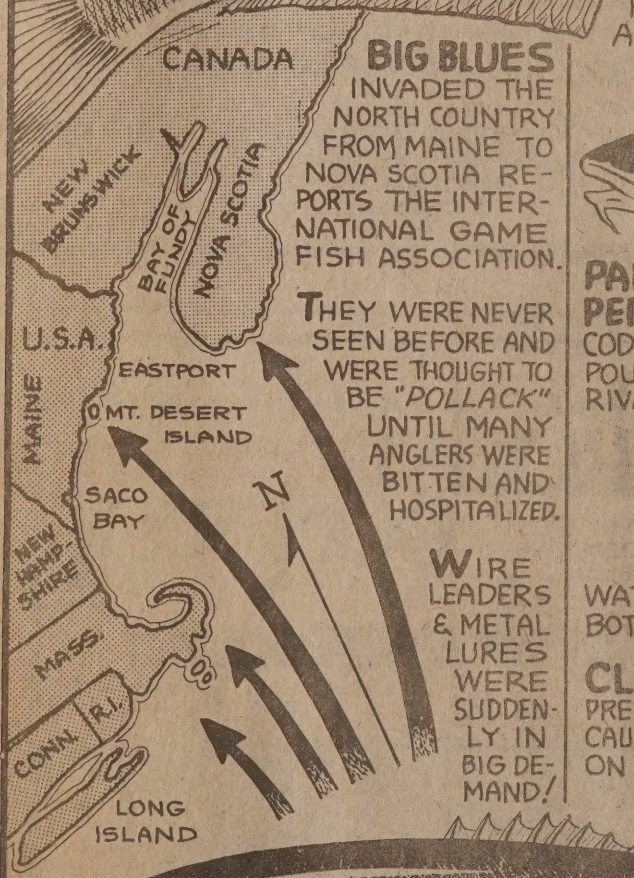
IN THE POPULAR EAST BAY ANGLERS 8TH ANNUAL CHILLER TOURNAMENT HELD RECENTLY, OUR BOAT LANDED 6 BLUES AND 18 COD WHICH SEEMED AN AVERAGE RATIO.

BACALO!

PAUL PERCODANI OF BABYLON BOATED A 40 LB. COD TO LEAD COMPETITOR CHARLIE BEZOLD'S 38 POUNDER, BUT NOT ENOUGH TO OVERTAKE ARCH RIVAL JOE MONTY'S 51 LB. MONSTER CODFISH.

SPINEY DOGFISH. A COLD WATER SPECIE OF 2-4 FT. SHARK, COVERED THE BOTTOM AND WERE CAUGHT BY THE HUNDREDS.

CLAM BAIT MAY SEEM UNUSUAL FOR A FIERCE PREDATOR SUCH AS THE BLUEFISH, BUT YOUR REPORTER CAUGHT SEVERAL THIS SEASON IN GREAT SOUTH BAY ON PIECES OF SKIMMER AND IT WAS THE ONLY BAIT THAT WORKED FOR ME TO CATCH MY WINTER SUPPLY OF SNAPPERS!



BIG BLUES INVADED THE NORTH COUNTRY FROM MAINE TO NOVA SCOTIA REPORTS THE INTERNATIONAL GAME FISH ASSOCIATION.

THEY WERE NEVER SEEN BEFORE AND WERE THOUGHT TO BE "*POLLACK*" UNTIL MANY ANGLERS WERE BITTEN AND HOSPITALIZED.

WIRE LEADERS & METAL LURES WERE SUDDENLY IN BIG DEMAND!

THE BLUES ARE ON THE BOTTOM MIXED IN WITH THE COD AND DOGFISH.

THEY BITE ON CLAM AND MACKEREL BAIT.

A STANDARD TWO-HOOK CODFISH RIG WITH AN 8-OUNCE SINKER IS SUFFICIENT.

SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

The **Viking Star** reported very slow codfishing during the week but fishing picked up over the weekend. Fishing is now concentrated in the Block Island area. Tony K. of Wading River took the pool of over $300 on Sunday with a 44 lb. cod. Plenty of big blackfish are mixed in the catch.

Captain Lester Behan of the **Peconic Queen II** said that the Andrea Doria trip was cancelled due to the gale warnings in the wreck area. People that had reservations for the trip were called the day before and notified. Watch L.I.F. for a new trip. On Sunday the Queen fished the Cartwright Grounds with good results. Bob Wallenstein took the $93.00 pool on Sunday with a 42½ lb. cod. Very few dogfish in the area. On Saturday the Queen fished 1½ miles off the southeast point of Block Island. The cod were small but there were no dogfish. This same area was fished Friday and Ed Lacey of Brooklyn took an $84.00 pool with a 53 lb. codfish.

Capt. Richard Rade of the **Marlin III** reported very good cod action in the Block Island area. On Sunday ten fishermen had 175 fish, 7 of which were over 40 lbs. Average cod was 9-10 lbs. with a few large blacks mixed in. This was fishing a couple of wrecks and open bottom. To avoid the dogfish fish close to the Island. It looks like a new school of cod has moved into the area after last weeks high winds.

CAPTREE

Capt. Speedy Hubert of the **Speedy v** reported very good codfishing 14 miles southeast of the Fire Island Inlet, 205-210 degrees, in 95-105 ft. of water. The fish are all over the open bottom. On Sunday over 100 cod came aboard, for only a handful of people. On Saturday 50 passengers took 125 fish. Many spent little time fishing due to the rain. Whiting, ling and mackerel are showing up in the catches. Capt. Speedy said it looks like a very good season.

"Excellent codfishing," reports from the **Captain Joseph Fleet**. The three boats took over 1100 cod on the weekend fishing 50 minutes south of Fire Island Inlet in 90-95 ft. of water. The pool fish on Friday was 43 lbs., average fish 8-10 lbs. with plenty of 15 and 20 pounders mixed in. Capt. Joseph said there are an awful lot of fish all over the open bottom and boats all the way from Sheepshead Bay are coming down to fish this area. Dogfish are disappearing. The codfishing is the best in many years the fish are being caught anywhere in water from 60 to 110 feet.

The Capt. Scotty has been doing very good two hours southwest of the inlet in 90 ft. of water. Six to ten fish per man is average. The pool fish Friday was 32 lbs., Saturday it was 30 lbs. Average fish is 5-8 lbs.

Capt. Bob of the **Yankee** had super cod action on Saturday, with 75 fish up to 41 lbs. for 18 men. Bob fished approximately 15 miles south of the inlet. On Sunday, the foul weather reduced the days catch to 30 cod to 23 lbs. "There are a lot of fish here" said Bob, "and fishing is he best its been for cod in 7-8 years.

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MAKO
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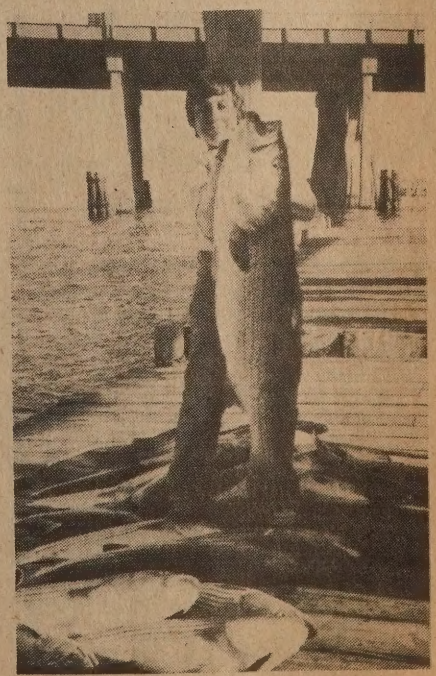

11-year-old Steve Silver of Merrick hefts a 35 lb. bass, largest of 35 he and his father Rich caught on the "Kim". Six of the fish were between 20 and 35 lbs. Lupo Umbrella rigs with sand eel colored tubes were the right combo on November 10th.

CAPTREE

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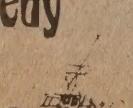
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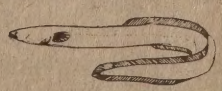

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N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie Kessinger of the **Starstream II** said the codfishing was "Fantastic" over the weekend. Fishing east-southeast an hour from Jones Inlet in 100-105 ft. of water on mussel and rocky bottom catches of 200-400 cod a day were common. Average size is 5-8 lbs. with the pool fish in the 40-50 lb. class. Fishing is steady throughout the day with a short lull at the change of the tide. Richie called it the best codfishing in years.

Capt. Al Lindroth of the **Captain Al** reported 250-300 cod a day running from 5 to 54 lbs., average fish 7-8 lbs. The Captain Al is concentrating on wrecks.

Capt. Spider Schmidt of the **Aloma II** sailed with a full load of people on Saturday and left the dock early. Codfishing was very good an hour and twenty minutes south of Jones Inlet in 105 ft. of water on open bottom. Over 120 fish came aboard, average size 6-8 lbs. with the pool fish going 24 lbs. Moving water was best, slack tide was slow. Capt. Schmidt said that he will now begin sailing daily again for cod for the remainder of the season. Capt. John Grimley Jr. will be at the helm.

Steven Nadel, age 15, took First Place in the Hudson Anglers Cod Tournament with this 51 lb. 13 oz. cod on November 23rd. Second Place went to George Finney, 39 lb. 15 oz. cod, and Third went to Joe

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The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration.

	A.M		P.M.	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	2:45	9:25	3:20	9:55
Fri.	3:35	10:15	4:10	10:40
Sat.	4:25	11:10	4:55	11:35
Sun.	5:20	—	5:50	12:05
Mon.	6:20	12:30	6:40	12:55
Tues.	7:10	1:20	7:30	1:45
Wed.	8:00	2:10	8:20	2:30
Thurs.	8:45	2:55	9:05	3:10

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The **Empire** had good cod action on Saturday, fishing 1½ hours out of Jones Inlet. Capt. Marty and Capt. Mike have acquired an additional boat and for '75 they'll be offering twice as much fishing action for all of us "hungries".

The infamous **G. Korn**, Merricks fishing C.P.A. fought his way onto one of the Freeport cod boats on Saturday and really bailed the bacalla. As he hefted the bursting sack off the boat at trips end and pulled his back completely apart, Korn gazed heavenward and whispered "What exquisite pain!"

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Amberjack IV skipper Jim Ardolina had excellent codfishing this weekend, on open bottom, southeast of Angler Banks and 2 other secret locations. Fares had bags of fish.

Mike's Tackle Shop reports excellent cod fishing on the open boats to 43 lbs., average fish 12-15 lb. class. Only fair on ling and whiting.

Stella Maris agrees, cod is the hot number now.

NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

Capt. Don of the **Everready** called to say that it'll be half fare this weekend for all Everready Membership Card holders. Also, fishing will be 20 minutes from the dock. After January 1, watch for a possible cod, whiting and ling weekend schedule by Capt. Don.

15-year-old Robert Wolke of Smithtown took this 28 lb. 12 oz. bass on a Sekora Tube at Sunken Meadow on November 17th. Photo courtesy of Four Winds tackle, Huntington.

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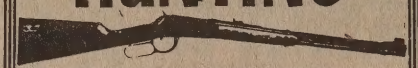
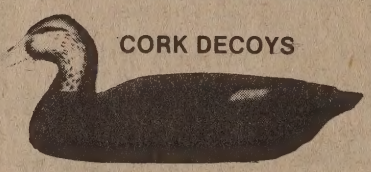


BOATING

DUCK HUNTERS



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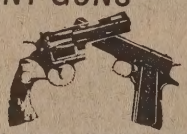

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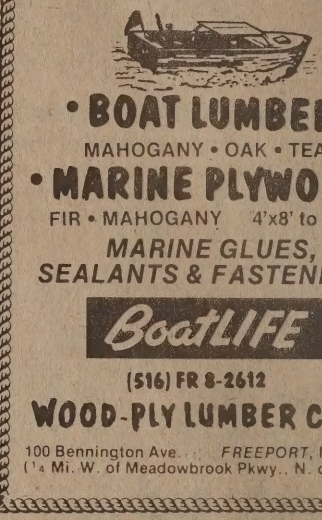

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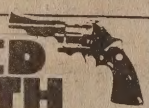

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NEW JERSEY Fishing Report

SANDY HOOK

Fred's Bait Service gives a very bleak report. Some cod fish are to be found at Ambrose. Flounder are all along the rivers from the bulkheads and in the inlets.

LONG BRANCH

The Long Branch Pier gives a report of very poor fishing last week. The Northeastern Monday killed fishing for a while. Thursday and Friday showed promise as fishing began to pick up again, but the high southeast winds Saturday knocked the fishing right out again.

TRUCK RIVER

Mac's Bait & Tackle tells of big codfish just offshore. 25 pounds fish are not uncommon. There are plenty of flounder in the Shark River, and worms are best bait.

IN MEMORIAM

Capt. John Suydam, President of National Part Boat Owners Alliance since its inception in 1951, dies Friday morning. He succumbed to a heart attack at the age of 77. His Military Service consisted of the Chemical Service in WWI and the U.S. Coast Guard in WWII. He not only served the National Party Boat Owners Alliance but was an active member of the Marine Resources Council. Capt. Suydam was also a member of the Babylon Tuna Club. Internment in the Pinelawn National Cemetery was on Tuesday at 11 a.m. from the Johnson Funeral Home, Lindenhurst.

CONNECTICUT SCENE

WHITE PLAINS

Maletown say prime focus is on hunting now, but blackfishing is still good in the Scotch Caps area. Most fish are running between 7 and 10 pounds.

STAMFORD

Dasko Spport & Tackle reported good success for shore fisherman with tommy cod. No report of flounders at all this week.

ROWAYTON

The Bait Shop reported only a few flounders caught and no clue as to where. General picture is bleak and cold weather has kept fisherman in their houses.

NORWALK

Mola Brothers reports the action in one simple word: NOTHING! There are no fisherman out, but we feel blackfish and flounder are still available.

WESTPORT

Westport Tackle Shop reports some striper action at 11B with schoolies to 8 pounds taking trolled bucktails.

BRIDGEPORT

Our friends at Sports Den reports no fish taken this week. Several fisherman out had trouble with ice freezing in the guides.

HATTERAS REPORT by Ken Lauer

I don't know just how the fish tell when a holiday rolls around, but they sure can. I'm referring to the blues and Thanksgiving. For the past three years they've shown the day before Thanksgiving, and this year was certainly no exception. Now you gotta remember that the dates change from year to year. Couple of years ago the holiday season was several days earlier. Oh, well. The important thing is—they are following the schedule.

To get to the meat of the thing, the blues blitzed the Hatteras beaches. Just like old times, with blues in the wash, chasing bunker plumb up on dry land. What really iced the cake was the way the fish spead out. With a couple of miles of blues to choose from the place didn't seem too crowded. Size? Twelve to eighteen, with one 24-pound giant. I 'spect the big boys will be around for quite a spell.

Despite somewhat adverse weather conditions the fish have been very cooperative. Plenty of kingies, thousands of fluke, and a smattering of two-to three-pound blues. At least there was up till report time. With all the big choppers around, the little tads ight be a trifle scarce for awhile. Stil, the outlook is good and likely to get better as the stripers get closer!

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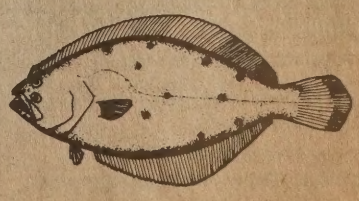

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TIDE TABLES

Note: All hours listed are "clock" hours.	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM
12/12 THURSDAY	6:29	6:50	7:57	8:30	10:25	11:00	9:52	10:23
12/13 FRIDAY	7:10	7:33	8:42	9:15	11:08	11:42	10:37	11:08
12/14 SATURDAY	7:52	8:14	9:24	9:57	11:42	—	11:21	11:50
12/15 SUNDAY	8:32	8:54	10:03	10:38	12:18	12:13	—	12:02
12/16 MONDAY	9:10	9:35	10:45	11:21	12:47	12:37	12:31	12:44
12/17 TUESDAY	9:52	10:19	11:26	—	1:09	1:07	1:14	1:27
12/18 WEDNESDAY	10:32	11:01	12:07	12:11	1:37	1:43	1:56	2:09
12/19 THURSDAY	11:14	11:46	12:56	12:56	2:15	2:25	2:38	2:54

on SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0	50
Shinnecock Bay	+1	25
East Quogue	+2	45
Shinnecock Canal	+1	18
Indian Reservation	+3	05
MORICHES INLET	−0	56
Smith's Point	+3	28
Harts Cove	+1	30
Potunck Point	+3	35
Mastic Beach	+3	28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0	38
(Inlet.Breakwater & Dem. Pt.)	−0	38
Coast Guard Station	−0	19
Fire Island Light	+0	47
GREAT SOUTH BAY		
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3	39
Heckscher State Park	+3	20
Bay Shore	+2	23
Babylon	+2	12
Amityville	+2	21
JONES INLET	−0	19
Loop Parkway Bridge	+0	25
Zachs Bay	+1	25
Seaford Harbor	+2	05
Freeport Creek	+0	34
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	−0	06
Long Beach Bridge	+0	19
ROCKAWAY INLET	+0	00
Beach Channel (Bridge)	+0	38
JFK Airport	+0	26
STATEN ISLAND	+0	27
MANASQUAN	−0	12

on NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0	27
Connecticut River	+1	10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0	12
Greenport	+1	04
Southold	+1	43
New Suffolk	+2	26
South Jamesport	+2	32
Shinnecock Canal	+2	33
Noyack Bay	+2	05
Sag Harbor	+0	59
Gardiners Bay	+0	21
Promised Land (Napeague)	−0	14
Fort Pond Bay	−0	29
Montauk Inlet	−0	25
Montauk Point	−1	13

on WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0	10
Execution Light	−0	06
Manhasset Bay	−0	01
Hempstead Harbor	−0	11
City Island	−0	03
Rye Beach	−0	28

PHASES OF THE MOON

12/3	12/21	11/29	12/6
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

on BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0	08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0	08
Bayville Bridge	+0	13
Eatons Neck Point	+0	03
Northport Bay	+0	03
Norwalk Islands	+0	10
Smithtown Bay	−0	03
Cranes Neck Point	+0	05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0	03
New Haven Harbor	+0	08
Mount Sinai Harbor	−0	08
Herod Point	−0	07
Mattituck Inlet	+0	19
Horton Point	−0	20
Truman Beach	−0	42

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet —0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". — 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

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